

[23 November, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, how much plan allocation is being provided in the Draft Eleventh Five Year Plan'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) and Central Water Commission formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources Development in 1980 envisaging inter-basin transfer of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/areas which comprises of two components, namely, Himalayan River Development Component and Peninsular Rivers Development Component. National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up under the MOWR in 1982 for carrying out various technical studies to establish the feasibility of the proposals of NPP and give concrete shape to it. Based on various studies conducted, NWDA has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Report (FRs). An affidavit giving information about National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development was filed by the Union of India in the Supreme Court on 28th October, 2002 in writ Petition No. 512 of 2002 regarding Networking of Rivers. After perusal of the aforesaid affidavit, the Hon'ble Court observed on 31st October, 2002 as under:

"We do expect that the programme when drawn up would try and ensure that the link projects are completed within a reasonable time of not more than ten years"

Accordingly Union of India filed an Affidavit before Hon'ble Supreme Court giving details of milestone dates/time table for accomplishing various activities related with inter-linking of rivers.

(b) NWDA has requested an outlay of Rs 241 crore for Eleventh Five Year Plan.

implementation of pilot project for water bodies

703. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have launched a pilot project for the revival of degraded water bodies in the country, if so, the details of the objectives of the pilot project,

- (b) on what basis the Districts were selected for the pilot project;
- (c) what are the names of agencies which are implementing the pilot project;
- (d) whether pilot project has been able to achieve the objectives within the allocated finance;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) if so, what are the outcomes of the pilot project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government has launched a Pilot Scheme for "National Project for Repair, Renovation & Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture" in January, 2005. The water bodies having culturable command area of more than 40 hectares and upto 2000 hectares are included under the Scheme in one or two districts in each State. The restoration of 1076 water bodies has been approved in 24 districts of 14 States under the Scheme at a cost of Rs. 296.8705 crores to be shared by Centre and State in the ratio of 3:1. The objectives of the scheme are (i) to restore and augment storage capacities of water bodies, and (ii) to recover and extend their lost irrigation potential.

(b) As per guidelines for the Scheme one or two districts in each State are to be taken up in the Pilot Scheme. Accordingly, all the States were requested to submit their proposals taking into consideration arid/drought prone areas, backward/weaker sections and particularly tribal dominated areas.

(c) The State Governments are implementing the Scheme.

(d) to (f) The physical work for restoration has been completed for 217 water bodies in 7 States and the restoration work is in progress in the remaining 859 water bodies.

Augmentation of irrigation in Jharkhand

704. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jharkhand has hardly 8 per cent of irrigation if so, whether Government have any plans to augment the irrigation potential of Jharkhand;